

How will EPA protect against an uncontrolled release of water from the Deep Adit?

Prior to any excavation activities associated with the Deep Adit, a pre-design investigation will be performed to better understand the conditions within the adit, including the extent to which the adit is full of water. The investigations will include the installation of wells to assess the amount of water and water pressure within the adit, geophysics to better understand the configuration of the adit, water quality sampling, and flow measurements. The design will include measures to remove water that is found to be confined in the currently buried Deep Adit portal prior to any disturbance of that portal. These measures will eliminate the potential for an uncontrolled release of water from the adit. Once the adit entrance is stabilized, a flow-through bulkhead would be installed to regulate the release of water from the adit to allow treatment of the water prior to it discharging to Ely Brook.